



Washington School for the Deaf

May 1, 2009

Middle School News

Social Studies

The 7th & 8th grade students completed their Classroom Based Assessment (CBA) this week on Japanese-American internment in Washington state. The test information will be sent to OSPI. Parents will also receive an assessment rubric after the results are scored.

The 5th & 6th grades start their CBA next week. The topic is The Affects of Technology on Deaf Culture.

Writing

7th/8th a continued working on their self-portrait poetry anthologies this week. **7th/8th b** learned about similes and how to incorporate them into their original poems. **5th/6th a** and **5th/6th b** are creating classroom self-portrait poetry anthologies. Each student will contribute one poem to this anthology. The book will become a permanent part of our classroom library.

7th & 8 Grade Science

The 7th/8th grade students are studying the moon as part of their Planetary Science studies. Each student has a moon log and needs to be observing the moon every night. They draw what they see in the log.

We are also continuing activities related to Wind Energy as part of a curriculum we are piloting.

5th & 6th Grade Science

Students designed self-propelled go carts this week. Working in pairs, students used materials provided to construct a cart with wheels, axles, and bearings. The challenge was figuring out how to channel energy into the car to make it move on its own. Be sure to ask your child about their self-propelled go cart.

Reading

7th/8th B: We learned about the Vietnam War Memorial & its significance to our history. We measured how long it is! **7th/8th A:** We continued learning prefixes & suffixes, focusing on 'un', 're', 'less', & 'ful'.

5th/6th A: We read a fictional biography about George Washington & his teeth. We saw a picture of his actual 'false' teeth!

5th/6th B: We are learning more about the inside of the earth- the inner core, outer core, mantle, & crust.

Upcoming Events:

May 6 -
7/8 Biztown

May 25—Memorial
Day No School

May 29
Fingerspelling Bee

June 5—8th Grade
Commencement

Tips for Parents

Here are some tips to help your child get organized for school:

- 1- Have your child put his or her school bag in the same spot every day, out of the way of family activities.
- 2- Check your planner (Terrier Book) for assignments and review them with your parents
- 3- Study at the same time every day.
- 4- Before bed put all of the assignments and planner back in your school bag.
- 5- Put everything in one place consistently so that you don't have to look for it.

Middle School Staff Contact Information:

Jenn Christianson (Writing) - jenn.christianson@wsd.wa.gov, (360) 696-6525 xxx4343

Michelle Clark (Multi-grade) - michelle.clark@wsd.wa.gov, (360) 696-6525 xxx1654

Piper Gallucci (Social studies) - piper.gallucci@wsd.wa.gov, (360) 696-6525 xxx4356

Mike Kellett (Math) - michael.kellett@wsd.wa.gov, (360) 696-6525xxx1658

April McArthur (Reading) - april.mcarthur@wsd.wa.gov, (360) 696-6525 xxx1662

Questions? Comments? Concerns?

Write us a note and send it back with your child.
